

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 12, 34, and 67 without prejudice or disclaimer, resulting in the following set of claims:

Claim 12 (currently amended): A processing system comprising:

a first computer, the processing system being for a second system including second computer; a plurality of portable cards transported by consumers, each card containing an electronic memory; a plurality of homes; a store; and a routing system for receiving a signal and generating network addresses in response to an inter-network address in the received signal, the routing system including a plurality of wide area communication links, wherein the first computer includes circuitry for sending first signals to the routing system, each first signal including a signal corresponding to a product, and an inter-network address corresponding to the second computer, to cause the routing system to generate a plurality of network addresses, each of the plurality of network addresses corresponding to a respective computer in a respective computer network, and wherein the second computer includes circuitry for receiving first signals, and wherein the second system further includes:

a plurality of first processors, each located in one of the plurality of homes, responsive to a signal corresponding to a product received by the second computer, for sending a memory signal to a portable card in the plurality of cards, the memory signal corresponding to the product; and

a second processor, in the store, for receiving the memory signal from a portable card in the plurality of cards, to send a telecommunications signal out of the store via a telecommunications signal path.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein each card further contains a processing unit that executes a program stored in a random access memory.

Claim 15 (original): The processing system of claim 12 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal identifying a consumer.

Claim 16 (original): The processing system of claim 12 wherein the store includes

a receiver for receiving a purchase signal corresponding to a product; and
a determiner for determining a price for the product depending on whether the memory signal, received by the second processor, corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 17 (original): The processing system of claim 16 wherein the store further includes

an electromagnetic detector for generating the purchase signal.

Claim 18 (original): The processing system of claim 16 wherein the store further includes

a bar code reader for generating the purchase signal.

Claim 19 (original): The processing system of claim 12 wherein each first processor includes a computer spatially removed from the second computer.

Claim 20-33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (currently amended): In a system including a store; [[,]] a plurality of portable cards each containing an electronic memory; [[,]] a plurality of homes; and a routing system for receiving a signal and generating a routing signal in response to an inter-network address in the received signal, the routing system including a plurality of wide area communication links, a method comprising:

sending first signals from a first computer to the routing system, each first signal including

a signal corresponding to a product, and

an inter-network address corresponding to a second computer,

to cause the routing system to generate a plurality of routing signals, each of

the plurality of routing signals corresponding to a respective portion of a

signal path between the first and second computers;

receiving a signal corresponding to a product, sent in the previous step, and the step, performed in one of the homes, of

sending, responsive to the signal received in the previous step, a memory signal to a portable card in the plurality of cards, the memory signal corresponding to the product, and

the step of

subsequently, moving the portable card to the store, and the step, performed in the store, of

receiving the memory signal from the portable card, to send a telecommunications signal out of the store via a telecommunications signal path.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 further including executing a program stored in a random access memory in the portable card.

Claim 36 (original): The method of claim 34 further including sending, in the telecommunications signal, a signal identifying a consumer.

Claim 37 (original): The method of claim 34 further including the steps, performed in the store, of
receiving a purchase signal corresponding to a product; and
determining a price for the product depending on whether the memory signal corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 38 (original): The method of claim 34 further including the steps, performed in the store, of
generating a purchase signal with an electromagnetic detector, the purchase signal corresponding to a product;
receiving the purchase signal; and
determining a price for the product depending on whether the memory signal corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 39 (original): The method of claim 34 further including the steps,
performed in the store, of
generating a purchase signal with a bar code reader, the purchase signal
corresponding to a product;
receiving a purchase signal; and
determining a price for the product depending on whether the memory signal
corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claims 40-66 (cancelled)

Claim 67 (currently amended): A processing system for a second system
including a first computer₁ [,] a second computer₂ [,] a plurality of portable cards
each containing an electronic memory₁ [,] a plurality of homes₁ [,] a store with a
first receiver that receives signals from the plurality of portable cards to send a
telecommunications signal out of the store via a telecommunications signal path₁ [,]
and a routing system for receiving a signal and generating a routing signal in response
to an inter-network address in the received signal, the routing system including a
plurality of wide area communication links, the processing system comprising:

circuitry, in the first computer, that sends first signals to the routing system, each
first signal including

a signal corresponding to a product, and

an inter-network address corresponding to the second computer,

to cause the routing system to generate a plurality of routing signals, each of the plurality of routing signals corresponding to a respective portion of a signal path between the first and second computers, thereby enabling the second computer to receive the first signals,

wherein the second system further includes a plurality of home computers, each located in one of the plurality of homes, responsive to the ~~a~~ signal corresponding to a product, from one of the first signals ~~a first signal~~ received by the second computer, for sending a memory signal to a portable card in the plurality of cards, the memory signal corresponding to the product.

Claim 68 (cancelled)

Claim 69 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein each card further contains a processing unit that executes a program stored in a random access memory.

Claim 70 (original): The processing system of claim 67 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal identifying a consumer.

Claim 71 (original): The processing system of claim 67 further including a second receiver that receives a purchase signal corresponding to a product; and

a determiner for determining a monetary amount depending on whether the memory signal, received by the first receiver, corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 72 (original): The processing system of claim 67 further including an electromagnetic detector for generating the purchase signal.

Claim 73 (original): The processing system of claim 67 further including a bar code reader for generating the purchase signal.

Claim 74 (previously presented): In a system including a store, a plurality of portable cards each containing an electronic memory, a plurality of homes and a routing system for receiving a signal and generating a routing signal in response to an inter-network address in the received signal, the routing system including a plurality of wide area communication links, a method comprising:

sending, from a first computer, a first signal to the routing system, the first signal including a signal corresponding to a product, and an inter-network address corresponding to a second computer, to cause the routing system to generate a plurality of routing signals, each of the plurality of routing signals corresponding to a respective portion of a signal path between the first and second computers, thereby enabling the second computer to receive the first signal; and
the step, performed in one of the homes, of

sending, responsive to the signal corresponding to a product received by the second computer, a memory signal to a portable card in the plurality of cards, the memory signal corresponding to the product, and
the step of

subsequently, moving the portable card to the store, and
the step, performed in the store, of

receiving the memory signal from the portable card, to send a telecommunications signal out of the store via a telecommunications signal path.

Claim 75 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 further including executing a program stored in a random access memory in the portable card.

Claim 76 (original): The method of claim 74 further including sending, in the telecommunications signal, a signal identifying a consumer.

Claim 77 (original): The method of claim 74 further including the steps,
performed in the store, of

receiving a purchase signal corresponding to a product; and
determining a monetary amount depending on whether the memory signal corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 78 (original): The method of claim 74 further including the steps,
performed in the store, of
generating a purchase signal with an electromagnetic detector, the purchase
signal corresponding to a product;
receiving the purchase signal; and
determining a monetary amount depending on whether the memory signal
corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 79 (original): The method of claim 74 further including the steps,
performed in the store, of
generating a purchase signal with a bar code reader, the purchase signal
corresponding to a product;
receiving a purchase signal; and
determining a monetary amount depending on whether the memory signal
corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 80-93 (cancelled)

Claim 93 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein
the store includes
means for generating a purchase signal with a bar code reader, the purchase
signal corresponding to a product;

a second receiver that receives a purchase signal; and
means for determining a monetary amount depending on whether the memory signal corresponds to the purchase signal.

Claim 94 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, each of the first processors includes a browser, and the processing system further includes a structure processed by the browser to generate a request.

Claim 95 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 94 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 96 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 94 wherein the request includes an address.

Claim 97 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 94 wherein the address is an email address.

Claim 98 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, and each of the first processors includes a browser, and the processing system further includes a first structure, selectable by a consumer, to cause the browser to invoke a second structure and generate a request.

Claim 99 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 98 wherein the first structure includes hypertext.

Claim 100 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 98 wherein the second structure includes a Form.

Claim 101 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, and the processing system further includes a document advertising a product, the document including a structure, selectable by a consumer, to generate a request.

Claim 102 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 101 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 103 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 101 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 104 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein the processing system further includes a structure, selectable by a consumer, to add the consumer to a record of consumers that will receive signals corresponding to a product, responsive to a subsequent event.

Claim 105 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 104 wherein the subsequent event is a message from a coupon issuer.

Claim 106 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 105 wherein the message from the coupon issuer includes an email message.

Claim 107 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 104 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 108 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 104 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 109 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal sent to a clearing house.

Claim 110 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 12 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal sent to a market research center.

Claim 111 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, and the method further includes processing a structure with a browser, to generate a request.

Claim 112 (previously presented): The method of claim 111 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 113 (previously presented): The method of claim 111 wherein the request includes an address.

Claim 114 (previously presented): The method of claim 113 wherein the address is an email address.

Claim 115 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, the system further includes a browser, and the method further includes selecting a first structure to cause the browser to invoke a second structure and generate a request.

Claim 116 (previously presented): The method of claim 115 wherein the first structure includes hypertext.

Claim 117 (previously presented): The method of claim 115 wherein the second structure includes a Form.

Claim 118 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein each first

signal is responsive to a request, the system further includes a document advertising a product, and the method further includes selecting a structure in the document to generate a request.

Claim 119 (previously presented): The method of claim 118 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 120 (previously presented): The method of claim 118 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 121 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 further including selecting a structure to add a consumer to a record of consumers that will receive signals corresponding to a product, responsive to a subsequent event.

Claim 122 (previously presented): The method of claim 121 wherein the subsequent event is a message from a coupon issuer.

Claim 123 (previously presented): The method of claim 122 wherein the message from the coupon issuer includes an email message.

Claim 124 (previously presented): The method of claim 121 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 125 (previously presented): The method of claim 121 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 126 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal to a clearing house.

Claim 127 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein the step of receiving a signal corresponding to a product is performed in the one of the homes.

Claim 128 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, each of the home computers includes a browser, and the processing system further includes a structure processed by the browser to generate a request.

Claim 129 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 128 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 130 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 128 wherein the request includes an address.

Claim 131 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 130 wherein

the address is an email address.

Claim 132 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, each of the home computers includes a browser, and the processing system further includes a first structure, selectable by a consumer, to cause the browser to invoke a second structure and generate a request.

Claim 133 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 132 wherein the first structure includes hypertext.

Claim 134 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 132 wherein the second structure includes a Form.

Claim 135 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein each first signal is responsive to a request, and the processing system further includes a document advertising a product, the document including a structure, selectable by a consumer, to generate a request.

Claim 136 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 134 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 137 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 134 wherein

the structure includes a Form.

Claim 138 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein the processing system further including a structure, selectable by a consumer, to add the consumer to a record of consumers that will receive signals corresponding to a product, responsive to a subsequent event.

Claim 139 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 138 wherein the subsequent event is a message from a coupon issuer.

Claim 140 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 139 wherein the message from the coupon issuer includes an email message.

Claim 141 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 138 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 142 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 138 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 143 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal to a clearing house.

Claim 144 (previously presented): The processing system of claim 67 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal to a market research center.

Claim 145 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 wherein the first signal is responsive to a request, and the method further includes processing a structure with a browser, to generate a request.

Claim 146 (previously presented): The method of claim 145 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 147 (previously presented): The method of claim 145 wherein the request includes an address.

Claim 148 (previously presented): The method of claim 147 wherein the address is an email address.

Claim 149 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 wherein the first signal is responsive to a request, the system further includes a browser, and the method further includes selecting a first structure to cause the browser to invoke a second structure and generate a request.

Claim 150 (previously presented): The method of claim 149 wherein the first

structure includes hypertext.

Claim 151 (previously presented): The method of claim 149 wherein the second structure includes a Form.

Claim 152 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 wherein the first signal is responsive to a request, the system further includes a document advertising a product, and the method further includes selecting a structure in the document to generate a request.

Claim 153 (previously presented): The method of claim 152 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 154 (previously presented): The method of claim 152 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 155 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 further including selecting a structure to add a consumer to a record of consumers that will receive signals corresponding to a product, responsive to a subsequent event.

Claim 156 (previously presented): The method of claim 155 wherein the subsequent event is a message from a coupon issuer.

Claim 157 (previously presented): The method of claim 156 wherein the message from the coupon issuer includes an email message.

Claim 158 (previously presented): The method of claim 155 wherein the structure includes hypertext.

Claim 159 (previously presented): The method of claim 155 wherein the structure includes a Form.

Claim 160 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal to a clearing house.

Claim 161 (previously presented): The method of claim 74 wherein the telecommunications signal includes a signal to a market research center.